

District of Columbia*

*This language has not been reviewed for accuracy by state/tribal agency.

SOURCE: Chapter 11, Water Quality Standards of Title 21 of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (Notice of Final Rulemaking, January 21, 2000):

http://dchealth.dc.gov/services/administration_offices/environmental/services2/water_division/pdf/WaterQualityStandards.shtm

1101.1 For the purposes of water quality standards, the surface waters of the District shall be classified on the basis of their (i) current uses, and (ii) future uses to which the waters will be restored. The categories of beneficial uses for the surface waters of the District shall be as follows:

Categories of Uses Which Determine Water Quality Standards

Classes of Water

Protection & propagation of fish, shellfish and wildlife

...C...

1102.3 TIER III: Where High Quality Waters constitute an outstanding National resource, such as waters of the National and District parks and wildlife refuges and waters of exceptional recreational or ecological significance, those waters shall be designated Outstanding National Resource Waters (ONRW) and the water quality in the ONRW shall be maintained, protected and designated as below:

- (a) New point and nonpoint source discharges, treated or otherwise, shall be prohibited in these segments;
- (b) Increases in loadings or new pollutants from existing point and nonpoint source discharges shall be prohibited in these segments;
- (c) Short-term degradation of the water quality shall be allowed after opportunity for public participation and addressing their comments, if any. However, all practical means of minimizing such degradation shall be implemented; and
- (d) Designation of ONRWs shall be adopted after full satisfaction of the intergovernmental coordination of the District's agencies and public participation.

1102.4 SPECIAL WATERS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA (SWDC): Any segment or segments of the surface waters of the District which are of water quality better than needed for the current use or have scenic or aesthetic importance shall be designated as Special Waters of the District of Columbia (SWDC)...

1103 WETLANDS

1103.1 In a wetland, the numerical and the narrative criteria shall be applied to the column of water above the wetland in accordance with the designated use.

1103.2 Wetlands with rooted vascular aquatic vegetation, except those specifically constructed or created as waste water treatment devices and except as provided in D. C. Code subsection 6-923(d) and subsection 6-926(a)(3), shall be protected from significant adverse hydrologic modifications, excessive sedimentation, deposition of toxic substances in toxic amounts, nutrient imbalances, and other adverse anthropogenic impacts.

1104 STANDARDS

1104.1 The surface waters of the District shall be free from substances in amounts or combinations that do any of one the following:

- (d) cause injury to, are toxic to, or produce adverse physiological or behavioral changes in humans, plants or animals
- (e) Produce undesirable or nuisance aquatic life or result in the dominance of nuisance species; or
- (f) Impair the biological community that naturally occurs in the waters or depends on the waters for its survival and propagation

1104.5 Class C streams shall be maintained to support aquatic life and shall not be placed in pipes.